New Tools and Approaches for Monitoring and Analyzing Internal and External Clinical Laboratory Performance

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EQA Deficiency Form

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External Quality Assurance Process in ProvLab

Context

The External Quality Assurance scheme is an important quality assurance tool for the validation of analytical measurements and fundamental as part of an overall quality strategy in specialized laboratories for public health diagnostic testing.

Objective

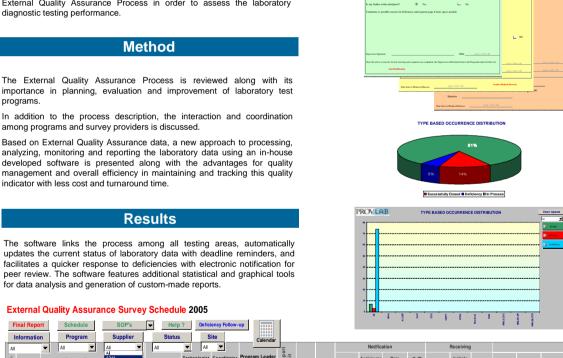
Develop a new approach and real-time tool for monitoring and analyzing the External Quality Assurance Process in order to assess the laboratory diagnostic testing performance.

The External Quality Assurance Process is reviewed along with its importance in planning, evaluation and improvement of laboratory test

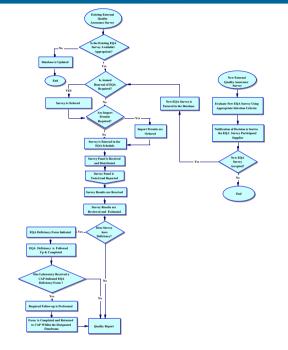
In addition to the process description, the interaction and coordination among programs and survey providers is discussed.

Based on External Quality Assurance data, a new approach to processing, analyzing, monitoring and reporting the laboratory data using an in-house developed software is presented along with the advantages for quality management and overall efficiency in maintaining and tracking this quality

The software links the process among all testing areas, automatically updates the current status of laboratory data with deadline reminders, and facilitates a quicker response to deficiencies with electronic notification for peer review. The software features additional statistical and graphical tools for data analysis and generation of custom-made reports.



Process



Conclusions

Rapid processing of External Quality Assurance surveys through automated reporting and updating facilitates quicker responses to deficiencies, and is useful for real-time tracking of overall laboratory performance.

